

Andover Board of Education Notes
April 11, 2022

Good news: The Board recognized the following individuals and groups for their success:

- Fourteen students who were selected for the Kansas Music Educators Association's All-State Elementary Choir: Alisa Brunson, Justin Burford, Destiny Firsching, Paitlyn Freeman, Molly Hall, Haylee Henderson, LilyAnn Hill, Hudson Jones, Robert Kincaid, Ava Perea, Lizzie Shultz, Lakynn Smith, Kendall Stephan and Reagan Watterson.
- Six Andover students who were selected to the KMEA Middle Level Choir: Hudson Axtell, Briggs Kavanagh, Gwyneth Pic, Alexi Thorstenberg, Savannah Emerson and Cooper Gallagher.
- Four Andover students who were previously named National Merit Semifinalists have now earned the distinction of National Merit Finalists. They are Jacob Norris and Melissa Ng of Andover Central High School, and John Hippisley and Daul Lee of Andover High School. That means they placed in approximately the top half of one percent of all juniors who completed the PSAT.
- Zoe Chan, an eighth-grader at Andover Middle School, has been named the 2022 Mary Patrick Aspiring Young Journalist of the Year by the Kansas Scholastic Press Association.
- The ACHS culinary program, which took first place in the restaurant management competition at the Kansas ProStart Invitational. Participants were Hayley Boatright, Jordan Fleske, Faith Scaglione and Maddie Stowell.
- The AHS boys soccer team, which won the Spirit of Sport Award from the Kansas State High School Activities Association. In October, the Trojans cooperated as a Salina Central High School player with a rare bone and cartilage condition took the field and scored a goal.

Bond update: Jeff Hohnbaum of Hutton provided an update on construction at District Office, which is on schedule to be completed by early summer.

ESSER update: Sherame Kneisel, chief financial officer, provided an update on the district's process for spending funds received under the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER). District leadership met with a stakeholder group on three occasions before spring break to identify areas of need that could potentially be funded through ESSER. The group consisted of educators, staff, administration, students, parents and community partners. The identified needs captured through this brainstorming process have been reviewed by administration and simplified for obtaining feedback. The next step will be to email a survey to staff, parents and secondary students for feedback. Community members will be able to provide feedback through the district's website. District leadership will consider input from the stakeholder group and feedback to complete an ESSER III expenditure recommendation for the Board in May. ESSER III funds must be spent by September 2024.

Facility usage fee schedule: Kneisel and David Jackson, executive director of operations, presented a [proposed fee schedule](#) for groups using district facilities. A committee consisting of athletic directors, building administrators, administrative assistants, Kneisel, Jackson and Superintendent Brett White analyzed fees charged by other districts and made a recommendation for fees for Andover going forward. The schedule will be revisited annually as part of the overall fee analysis and approval, and will include any changes to facility availability or allowable use.

Staff handbooks: Dr. Russell Miller, assistant superintendent for human resources, presented proposed 2022-23 handbooks for licensed, classified, substitute and administrative personnel. He highlighted a [handful of changes](#) made in the handbooks.

Counseling instructional materials: Jill Lachenmayr, assistant superintendent for academic affairs, and elementary counselors presented on [counseling materials](#) they are recommending the district use. Called “Safer, Smarter Kids,” the curriculum provides grade-level specific lessons for students in grades K-5. Sample materials were available at the meeting and after the meeting. The approximate cost of the adoption will be \$10,800.

ACHS FACS: The Board approved spending \$769,007 with Hutton to remodel the Family and Consumer Sciences room at ACHS. This includes flooring, ceiling, paint, lights, stainless steel counters, new appliances, new cooking hoods and make-up air HVAC unit.

Fire alarm: The Board voted to spend \$73,700 with Pinnacle Fire & Automation to replace the fire alarm system at eCademy/old Meadowlark Elementary.

Wireless controller technology: Voted to spend \$548,849.98 through eRate technology to purchase wireless controllers from ConvergeOne.

Transportation contract: The Board approved a one-year extension for transportation services with Durham School Services. Key provisions include:

- Updated maintenance and tracking provisions.
- Annual lease payment of \$48,000 for use of district bus facility. There has not been any payment for use of facilities in previous agreements.
- Annual percentage increase of 2.5% for 2022-23 in the one-year contract.
- Performance penalties when services don't meet expectations.
- One-year term for 2022-23, with renewal options for the 2023-24 & 2024-25 school years. This gives the district flexibility next year to either seek requests for proposals for transportation services for the 2023-24 year or negotiate a renewal with Durham.

Orchestra instruments: Board members voted to spend up to \$150,000 for orchestra instruments to begin the district’s new orchestra program in the fall.

Superintendent’s report: Superintendent Brett White gave an update on the Kansas Legislative session.